

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraphs and headings running from page 1, line 3 to page 1, line 15 with the following headings and paragraphs:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The invention relates to methods and systems for monitoring a scene to detect changes, especially changes that indicate a theft of an object.

2. Description of Related Art

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The publication "Gefahrenmeldesysteme, Technik und Strukturen" {Danger Alert Systems, Technology and Structures} by Harald Fuhrmann, Hüttig-Verlag, Heidelberg, 1992, ISBN 3-7785-2185-3, pp. 82 - 83, has already disclosed comparing a reference image of a view field with a current image so that changes in the current image in relation to the reference image cause an alarm to be triggered; in order to detect differences, a gray value comparison is executed.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is an object of the present invention to provide a method and a system for monitoring a scene to detect changes, especially theft of objects or dangerous conditions, in which changes in illumination and brightness do not affect the results.

According to the invention the method for monitoring a scene to detect a